

Law Enforcement News

Vol. XXVII, No. 550

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

February 28, 2001

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Truth, DARE & consequences

Anti-drug program officials say curriculum needs a makeover

After years of denouncing studies that said the DARE program's methods for steering children away from drugs to be ineffective, or even counter-productive, officials of the anti-drug program this month conceded that their curriculum needed an overhaul.

The nation's most-popular and best-funded substance abuse prevention program for elementary and middle-school students, DARE is taught in 75 percent of the school districts in the United States and in 54 other countries. It has a budget of \$225 million, with \$1.7 million of that coming from the Department of Justice; \$215 million from police departments who pay the salaries of officers; and about \$15 million from corporate contributions.

It also has a wide and loyal following within law enforcement. One officer told Law Enforcement News that the success of the program may not be quantifiable. "How do I measure success or failure? I may never know. If I have taught one child to say 'no' to drugs who may have said 'yes' without DARE, we all win." Another said that law enforcement should focus its energy on "improving and building upon the greatest drug-prevention program to ever come in the schools across America — DARE."

Yet more than a decade of research studies have pointed to the program's failure to live up to supporters' claims. Federal education officials, who distribute about \$500 million in drug prevention grants each year, said last year that they would no longer allow schools to spend money from the Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools on DARE because it did not consider the

program to be scientifically proven.

As early as 1987, studies were finding that DARE made little difference in whether youths rejected drugs. In 1990, Canadian researchers concluded that it had no "significant effect" on students' use of tobacco, beer, acid, wine, heroin,

DARE's acknowledgement of curriculum problems is "better late than never," says one long-time critic.

cocaine or marijuana.

One of the studies most frequently cited by DARE's detractors came out of the University of Illinois in 1997. Researchers tracked 1,800 students over a six-year period and found that by the end of high school, any impact of the program had worn off. In fact, an increase in drug use was detected among some suburban students who had been through the DARE program.

Similar findings were reported in a 10-year study by University of Kentucky researchers. By the time students reached age 20, the study said, DARE had lost any effect it might have had.

And four years ago, criminologists from the University of Maryland included DARE on the roster of crime prevention programs that do not appear to work. While the study's lead author, Prof. Lawrence W. Sherman, conceded that

DARE does help create a bond between police and children, he said it does not seem to perform its core function of keeping students away from drugs.

Jerry Elsner of the Illinois State Crime Commission, said a key flaw in DARE's technique is that students are taught that all drugs are dangerous. When they find out that is not true, it undercuts the program's effectiveness. "Kids are too smart," he told Newsweek. "They want to be told straight up there's a difference between marijuana and heroin."

And even among law enforcement, the program has had its critics. Jed Dolnick, a former Washington County, Wis., sheriff's lieutenant who was named police chief in Jackson this month, was one who paid a price for his criticism of DARE earlier in his career.

"I've heard this mentioned in other law enforcement circles, that it is very appropriate that DARE America has recognized there are some problems with the current curriculum, although it seems that their realization only occurred after their funding was threatened by the feds," Dolnick told Law Enforcement News. "It seems the recognition came a little late. The other thing I hear, and I agree with, is, if the current DARE curriculum is defective, why is an ineffective program being continued for three to five years while the new program is developed? It's fine to test the new program, but if it's been established that the existing program has some problems, why are the resources being expended to continue it?"

While some would insist that the program fills

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As costs soar, questions of quality dog Mass. college-for-cops program

As the overall cost of a program that provides educational incentives for police in Massachusetts balloons to a projected \$2 billion by 2016, questions are being raised about the academic rigor demanded of students by four major university- and college-based night schools that offer the courses.

"The time is long overdue for the state to evaluate whether the millions we're paying for these diplomas are

worth the paper they're written on," said Samuel R. Tyler, president of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau. "The graduation standards for high school seniors are tougher than the standards for some of the police officers in these programs."

Under the Quinn Bill, a law enacted in 1970, cities and towns are reimbursed for half of the salary bonuses they pay to officers who have earned two-year,

four-year and graduate degrees. More than 8,000 officers in 232 localities have participated in the program, including 1,656 members of the State Police, who receive annual bonuses as high as \$25,000. These payments, which can make up as much as a third of what officers earn, affect future pensions as well as base salaries.

While the "police career incentive pay program" was passed as an effort to encourage college students to consider a career in criminal justice, the financial incentive quickly lured in-service personnel to the numerous night school programs that sprang up around the state. Those most frequently attended include Northeastern University's evening school, University College, Western New England College in Springfield, Curry College in Milton and Anna Maria College in Paxton.

Educators, however, contend that curriculums fall far short of what is recommended by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. Most of the classes are taught at satellite locations, including police stations and union halls, which give students no access to libraries, computers or other support facilities. Classes, the critics charge, are often taught by fellow officers instead of full-time professors or doctorate-degree holders. Moreover, under the Quinn Bill, sworn personnel are given credits

for "life experience" accrued on the force, thereby allowing them to avoid class altogether.

At Curry College, 39 of the more than 300 officers now studying there for an undergraduate degree were granted 323 such credits during the past three years, according to one school official.

"What you have here is a well-intended public policy which has found all the ways to gerrymander around it," said Jack Greene, dean of Northeastern University's College of Criminal Justice, a full-time, day program. "The goal of the Quinn Bill is something we should hold on to and use to create an incentive for people in the law enforcement community to further education and further the professionalization of police services," he told Law Enforcement News, but added, "It's turned into an economic boondoggle."

While the curriculum may not pass muster with all observers — and indeed, the state's Board of Higher Education took a step in December toward evaluating the quality of education offered by the night-school programs — such questions should not undermine the goal of persuading police officers to attend college, said Thomas Nee, president of the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association.

Virtual drug dealing is all the rage with Internet set

In what is perhaps a post-modern twist on the venerable board game Monopoly, a new Internet game downloaded by more than two million users so far allows players to accumulate wealth by becoming successful drug dealers. The Drug Enforcement Administration is not amused.

"This game, at least subtly, if not overtly, glamorizes being a drug dealer," said DEA Special Agent John Lunt. "If [the police] don't win every time, it's sending the wrong message."

The game, called "Dope Wars," has been on the Top 50 list of games for the past 97 weeks on CNET and other Internet sites that offer free downloads, and moved up from fifth most-popular

download to third in mid-February. Dope Wars is CNET's second-most downloaded game for PalmPilots, and has a dedicated following among business and financial professionals.

Players can become rich by selling cocaine, heroin, Ecstasy, acid and other drugs, all the while being hounded by loan sharks and armed police. They must also respond to changes in the market, such as pharmacy robberies dumping cheap Ecstasy on the street and variables in the price of heroin, and may protect their enterprise by buying guns or stockpiling cash to pay a doctor to repair gunshot wounds.

The popularity of Dope Wars took CNET by surprise, said its content pro-

duction manager, George LaTourette. "It's a little bit of a shocker at first because of the content, but really, it's pretty much like a stock-trading game," he told USA Today. "You buy low, you sell high."

The game was created by Ian Wall, a 32-year-old computer consultant from Queens, N.Y., who modernized a 1980s version of it and shared it on download.com. Wall has a Web site, www.dopewars.net, where players share scores. Dope Wars is mild, he told USA Today, compared with video games that are more graphically violent. "We all like to get our thrills vicariously. I thought it would be a bit of a giggle for the office."

Around the Nation

Northeast



CONNECTICUT — The Cromwell Police Commission is considering a union grievance aimed at Police Chief Anthony Salvatore's new directive requiring officers to make at least two motor-vehicle stops per shift. Union officials say that the Jan. 29 directive violates a state law prohibiting traffic ticket quotas. Salvatore, however, claims that the directive gives the officers discretion and that traffic stops prevent accidents and crimes.

A Hartford prostitute, Latoya L. Grasser, has filed a \$10-million federal lawsuit against the city and 14 current and former police officers. Grasser, who was a key witness in the trials of four officers convicted as the result of a corruption and sexual misconduct probe, claims that several detectives and their supervisors allowed officers under their command to force her to engage in sexual activity for several years. In return, charges were rarely filed against her despite her being picked up routinely in prostitution and drug sweeps.

The U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division has concluded that Hartford police officer Robert Allan did not violate the civil rights of teenage robbery suspect Aquan Salmon when the officer fatally shot him in April 1999. Salmon and three other youths were wearing passersby by pointing handgun-shaped cigarette lighters at them. Allan claimed that, based on a dispatcher's report, he believed they were carrying real guns when he shot Salmon, and that the teen was reaching for a gun just prior to the shooting. A federal prosecutor determined that the evidence was insufficient to refute the officer's claim.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — Police Chief Charles H. Ramsey announced that the department will conduct a random citywide survey of crime victims to determine whether or not they had been treated with compassion and sensitivity by the responding officers. The decision came after a council committee hearing in which the chief faced sharp criticism about the quality of his homicide unit's investigations. The survey will be performed by police recruits so that they can gain insight into the concerns of victims.

MARYLAND — On Feb. 13, Queen Anne's County Deputy Sheriff Jason C. Schwenz and Centerville Police Officer Michael S. Nickerson were gunned down while investigating a complaint of loud music at a mobile home. The suspect, Francis M. Zito, had been released from prison a month earlier after serving less than a year for assaulting his mother. When the officers knocked on his door, Zito told them that someone would get hurt if they opened the door. When state trooper Richard Skidmore opened the door, Zito fired several blasts from a shotgun, hitting the two other officers. Schwenz died immediately, and Nickerson died about an hour later at a trauma center. Queen Anne's County State's Attorney David Gregory said that he would seek the death penalty in the case.

NEW HAMPSHIRE — Nashua po-

lice Sgt. Ronald Scaccia is fighting for his job after an alleged brutality incident was captured on videotape. Scaccia tussled with a suspect who refused to take off his wedding ring while being booked, and another officer sprayed the man with pepper spray. Scaccia, who is accused of excessive force as well as failing to get medical attention for the man and falsifying reports, said that he was acting in accordance with his training and that it wouldn't make sense to abuse a prisoner knowing he was being videotaped.

NEW JERSEY — Retired West Milford police sergeant Gerrit Kuhnen has been allowed into a Preliminary Intervention program without having to plead guilty to any of several stalking and official misconduct charges against him. Last year, a jury failed to reach a complete verdict after a trial in which seven women testified that Kuhnen frequently showed up at their homes and workplaces and followed them at night while he was in his patrol car. Kuhnen has never admitted guilt and says instead that he was friends with these women and was unaware that his behavior bothered them. The prosecutor's office said that while it was ready to go ahead with another trial, the alleged victims did not want to continue.

Port Authority of New York and New Jersey police officers worked a total of 389,709 hours in overtime last year and netted an average of \$20,000 in overtime pay. Although total overtime was about 5,000 hours less than in 1999, the officers averaged about \$1,800 more because of an increase in police wages. Overtime has been declining since it reached an all-time high of 600,000 hours in the mid-1990s.

NEW YORK — Although the New York Police Department has a record-high number of officers and record-low levels of crime, the response time to 911 calls increased to 12 minutes last year, up 11 percent from 1999. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani had no ready explanation for the increase, but pledged to hire more 911 operators and possibly create a 311 alternative phone line for less serious calls.

The arsenal of the Niagara Falls Police Department will be expanded this summer to include new non-lethal weapons, including Advanced Air Taser guns and Pepperball guns. Both weapons are expected to help the police do a more effective job and reduce the need for deadly force. The Air Taser carries an additional benefit in that each use of the weapon is digitally recorded, automatically creating an incident record.

PENNSYLVANIA — District Justice John Mercuri of the Scranton Central Court has ruled that former Scranton detective Michael Serge will not face the death penalty when he is tried for his wife's murder. Serge confessed to shooting his wife on Jan. 15, claiming that he had to protect himself from her when she came at him with a knife. Serge faces both first- and third-degree murder charges.

Glendon Police Officer Christopher J. Scaggs, who is awaiting trial on a rape charge, has surrendered on new charges of bribery and official oppression after being accused of forcing another woman into having sex with him. The first woman testified that Scaggs as-

saulted her repeatedly one morning while he was on duty and in uniform. The second woman claims that when Scaggs presented her with a bench warrant, he told her that he wouldn't arrest her if she had sex with him. The woman complied and was jailed anyway.

The city of Johnstown and the local police union have agreed on allowing officers to be tested for drugs and alcohol. Anyone testing positive for drugs will be fired immediately. Anyone whose test shows a blood-alcohol content of over .04 will be suspended for 20 days without pay. A second offense would result in dismissal.

An Allegheny County crime lab has a backlog of almost 2,000 cases as too few lab technicians struggle with growing caseloads. The county lab is independent of the State Police crime labs, which faced a similar problem several years ago as drug arrests surged, but increases in state funding enabled those labs to hire more technicians and update equipment. The county forensics office has applied for a grant, but much of that would go to updating equipment.

RHODE ISLAND — Providence Police Officer William Baldassare was arrested Feb. 10 on misdemeanor domestic violence charges after allegedly grabbing his estranged wife by the throat and kicking her repeatedly. Police later seized several weapons from his home.

Southeast



FLORIDA — Vero Beach Police Officer Ian Allard was struck and killed by an alleged drunken driver on Feb. 13 while off-duty on his motorcycle, just one day after receiving an award for the most drunken-driving arrests in Indian River County. The driver told authorities that he had consumed about one and a half beers and was driving to a store to buy more beer when the fatal accident occurred.

GEORGIA — Auburn Police Chief Gary Holland is being investigated by the state's Police Officer Standards and Training Council for a 1996 domestic violence incident. Following his appointment on Feb. 1, newspapers received copies of a police report that said that Holland shoved his then-estranged second wife into a wall after threatening to kill her and himself.

LOUISIANA — Improved technology has made it possible for people to get motor-vehicle accident reports from regional State Police troop stations. The reports, which were previously available only at headquarters in Baton Rouge, can now be electronically sent to any station, and accessed for \$5. State Police officials are now exploring ways to obtain the reports via the Internet.

New Orleans police officer Donald Brooks is suing the city, his department and the local news media for "psychological, emotional, financial and mental damages" following his April 2000 acquittal in an attempted murder case. Brooks was tried after a man who was shot outside of a nightclub claimed that he knew his assailant was an off-duty

police officer named Donald, and then picked Brooks's photo out of a lineup. During the trial, a ballistics expert said that the bullet fragments did not come from either of the two guns that Brooks turned over to police.

After three previous trials ended in mistrials, former New Orleans police officer George Lee 3d was convicted Feb. 10 of forcible rape and kidnapping.

Officer William Brown Jr. was fired from the Baton Rouge Police Department Feb. 14 after being arrested for allegedly punching his girlfriend. An internal affairs investigation concluded that Brown had violated the department's policies on conduct, truthfulness and sick leave.

MISSISSIPPI — Nate Thomas, one of six former Jackson police officers accused in a corruption case, pleaded guilty Feb. 7 to federal charges of taking eight payments of \$150 each to protect people he believed to be drug dealers. The dealers were actually undercover FBI agents, who made taped conversations of the incidents.

NORTH CAROLINA — Members of the Durham Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit, including the unit's staff assistant, will be attending a seven-month Spanish program at the University of North Carolina that will include a 10-day Spanish immersion session in Guadalajara, Mexico. It is hoped that the program, which is being funded with federal grant money, will help officers improve communication with Spanish-speaking victims. Currently, as much as 20 percent of domestic violence calls are from the city's Latino community.

Lawyers for Russell Weston, the paranoid schizophrenic who is charged with killing two U.S. Capitol Police officers in 1998, are fighting efforts to treat his mental illness. If their client improves enough to be found competent for trial, he may face execution because it is a potential death-penalty case. They have said that they would let him be medicated if prosecutors waive the death penalty. In 1999, Judge Emmet G. Sullivan, who declared that Weston was incompetent for trial, ordered that he be placed on medication to protect him and the public, but a federal appeals court overruled him. The court told Sullivan to consider whether medical ethics preclude the ordering of medication in a potential capital case. Weston is confined in a psychiatric ward at the federal prison in Butner.

SOUTH CAROLINA — The Town of Logan will pay \$35,000 to settle a reverse-discrimination lawsuit brought by former police chief Roger Longshore, who claimed that Mayor Richard A. Logan, who is black, fired him in 1999 because he wanted a black police chief. Logan has denied firing Longshore, who is white, because of his race.

VIRGINIA — The Richmond Personnel Board has upheld the Police Department's firing of officer Daniel Quinney, who was accused of leaving his beat to visit City Councilwoman Reva M. Trammell at her house. This was not the first incident involving the councilwoman and the officer. In 1998, the two were spotted in a patrol car miles away from a traffic accident Quinney was supposed to be investi-

gating. Last summer, Quinney was acquitted on an assault charge for allegedly slapping Trammell in the presence of another police officer. Quinney claims that he and Trammell are friends but are not romantically involved.

E. L. "Leo" Montgomery was removed as chief of the Narrows Police Department and demoted to lieutenant after he was charged with entering the home of his former girlfriend and stealing a dog and television set. The charges were later dismissed and the incident was classified as a domestic dispute.

Midwest



ILLINOIS — Major crime in Chicago fell by nearly 5 percent in 2000 compared to 1999 levels, continuing a nine-year downward trend. The Chicago police reported declines in every major crime category, including homicide, down nearly 14 percent; arson, 2 percent; aggravated assaults, 5 percent; sexual assaults, 8 percent, and robberies, almost 4 percent.

Following a barrage of complaints about rampant speeding, Chicago police will once again be patrolling and enforcing traffic laws on the city's expressways. This will be the first time since 1985, when the State Police took on the job in exchange for an agreement that allowed lottery tickets to be sold at O'Hare Airport, that Chicago police officers will assume control over area highways.

California criminologist Edward Blake has accused Pamela Fish, a Chicago crime-lab analyst, of "scientific fraud" with respect to a 1986 murder case. Four men, who have since requested new trials and DNA testing, were convicted of the abduction, rape and murder of 23-year-old Lori Roscetti, partly because of Fish's testimony about serology tests conducted at her Chicago Police Department crime lab. Blake, who was hired to examine her lab notes, testimony and other data, believes Fish testified falsely, but was careful to point out that his research did not definitively clear the men. State police are currently reviewing the allegations against Fish.

The 1998 line-of-duty killing of Chicago police officer Michael Cerialle has resulted in a recent flurry of legal and administrative activity. First, the trial of the accused murderer, Jonathan Tolliver, ended in a hung jury Feb. 8, after 11 jurors who had voted from the start to convict spent 70 hours unsuccessfully trying to convince the lone holdout, Sam Shipp, to do the same. Assistant Cook County State's Attorney Jim McKay has asked for a retrial of Tolliver. Meanwhile, a civil case against the gun industry that was brought by Cerialle's family and the survivors of four other murder victims has been given the green light by a Cook County circuit judge. The plaintiffs are suing gun makers for marketing guns to street gang members and fueling what one attorney described as "a juvenile arms race on the streets of Chicago." Also on Feb. 8, Mayor Richard Daley doubled the size of the special firearms unit that traced the gun used to kill Cerialle, from 10 officers to 20. According to The Chicago Sun-

Times, Chicago is believed to be the only big city in the U.S. with a unit that focuses on tracing guns used in crimes.

INDIANA — LaPorte police officers are no longer wondering what happened to the four-foot python they placed in their evidence room last summer. Capt. David Gariepy went in Feb. 12 and, while moving some boxes around, found the snake coiled up behind one. At the time of its disappearance, the officers tore the room apart looking for the snake but did not find it. They now suspect that it moved between the room and the adjoining garage through a space at the bottom of the door, and kept itself alive for months by eating mice.

MICHIGAN — Detroit Police Officer Eugene Brown is seeking more than \$175,000 in two lawsuits that claim he was illegally denied promotion. Brown, who was passed over for sergeant last August, has shot three people to death and wounded a fourth in the seven years he has been on the force. The shootings have been reviewed, however, and the county prosecutor's office did not bring any charges. Police Chief Benny Napoleon said that he recommended Brown for a promotion in a letter a few weeks ago.

WEST VIRGINIA — The anonymous crime-tip line started five years ago in Charleston no longer has a volunteer manning it. In fact, no one seems to know where in the police station to find the phone that rings when the crime line is dialed. A decision to reinstate the crime line is under consideration, but Police Chief Jerry Riffe said he didn't know of any crimes that had been solved by tips from the phone line. A revived crime line would just create a new administrative problem, he said.

Morale took a nose-dive at the Charleston Police Department after Mayor Jay Goldman proposed that 25 police officers, 25 firefighters and an unspecified number of other city employees be cut to help the city close a \$1-million budget gap. Said one officer: "We wanted a raise. No. Good equipment. No. Now this."

WISCONSIN — A legal opinion requested of the City Attorney by Milwaukee's Fire and Police Commission has affirmed that under state law the commission has broad powers to order Police Chief Arthur Jones to make changes or perform certain tasks, such as the redeployment of officers, and can vote him out of office if he doesn't comply. The provision in state law has never been tested, and the legal opinion comes at a time when Jones's sour relationship with the commission and Mayor John O. Norquist appears to be improving. Jones faced criticism last year when there was a steep drop in the number of illegal guns taken off the street, fewer arrests made and a rising number of internal investigations. Still, there was a 4.2-percent drop in overall crime in 2000 from 1999.



IOWA — Police in Des Moines who surf the Internet posing as teen-agers in order to find those distributing child

pornography or soliciting juveniles for sex were billed last month by AT&T for \$181. The police, who say they tapped into an expensive phone line on a porn site based on the southwest Pacific island of Vanuatu for less than a minute, believe that a hacker stayed on the line after the police walked away from the computer. The Iowa attorney general said that this type of modem-dialing scam has been trapping people in Iowa. The Des Moines police plan to contest the phone bill.

MISSOURI — Clay County Sheriff Paul Vecovo has given the county's turbine helicopter to the Kansas City Police Department in exchange for priority service. Vecovo has been promising to get rid of the helicopter since his November election campaign because, although the county received it at no cost in 1996 from the U.S. Defense Department, it has since cost \$254,000 in pilot salaries, insurance, hangar fees, fuel and maintenance. Vecovo believes that Kansas City police can make better use of the helicopter by providing a wider range of operating times.

On Feb. 13, the St. Charles County Council approved an emergency "methamphetamine hot spots agreement" funded by \$95,256 from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. The sheriff's department will use the money to hire personnel and buy equipment to combat drug trafficking. Despite a crackdown in recent months and an improvement since 1999 when the drug task force closed down 60 meth labs in the county, Sheriff Doug Sauters said, "it's still an epidemic out there."

NEBRASKA — Omaha police officers who until recently had been hoping from school to school teaching the DARE program's anti-drug message to fifth graders will now focus their efforts on just a few schools each quarter. The new effort, part of the three-year-old TEAM Nebraska program, gives officers the opportunity to develop relationships with youngsters over the course of an entire quarter.

La Vista Officer John Danderand, who shot 16-year-old Jason Witt in the neck and torso on Jan. 31, has been cleared of any wrongdoing by the Sarpy County Attorney. Witt pulled a weapon while being served a warrant for probation violation and Danderand drew his weapon and fired. The youth's actions will be reviewed in a pending Sarpy County Juvenile Court case.

WYOMING — Residents of Ranchester and Dayton believe the Sheridan County Sheriff's Department is not providing them with adequate patrol coverage, and some residents feel the two towns should pool their resources and hire a community police officer instead of paying the sheriff's department an annual \$24,000 for service. Sheriff Dave Hofmeier said he is willing to meet and work with Ranchester's mayor, civic leaders and residents.

Former Torrington police officer Jason Willmschen faces a preliminary March 7 on charges of taking immoral or indecent liberties with a child under age 18. Willmschen, who was a probationary officer, was fired for reasons having nothing to do with the morals charge, said Police Chief Billy Jones.



COLORADO — Just three days after Denver patrol officer Ronnie Williams stood in front of a statue of Martin Luther King Jr. and said he would not pursue the formation of the Denver Police White Officers Association, he was distributing fliers in police districts asking fellow officers to support just such a group. Williams, an eight-year veteran, said he wanted to make it clear that this was not a white issue, but rather an equal rights issue, and one that "concerns all races that feel they've been discriminated against because of their skin color, including white officers." Williams initially said he would not pursue creation of the group in order to give Police Chief Gerry Whitman and the Police Protective Association an opportunity to address their concerns.

Douglas County sheriff's deputy Mark K. Conrad and Sgt. Darren L. Lantz were fired Feb. 9 for their roles in a sex scandal with a teen-age Explorer cadet. Conrad might have had sex with the cadet and Lantz faces charges related to failure to report the incidents. Three other deputies have received demotions or letters of reprimand for failing to report their knowledge of the incidents. Prosecutors declined to charge Conrad because he may not have known the cadet was 17 at the time.

NEW MEXICO — Las Cruces Police Chief Bill Baker has decided to dissolve the city's 17-member community policing unit in order to beef up the regular patrols. Baker said the move does not mean an end to the community policing philosophy, but that the regular patrols need more staffing because the department has had trouble attracting and retaining police officers.

OKLAHOMA — Tulsa Police Officer Robert D. Rolan was suspended Feb. 9 following his arrest on four drug-related complaints, after police made a methamphetamine bust at his house. Police say that Rolan's name came up in another drug investigation and that an undercover probe divulged that Rolan was apparently present when a house guest, Shannon Dugan, delivered some of the drug to an undercover police officer in Rolan's bedroom.

TEXAS — The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has determined that four Fort Worth police officers are being discriminated against and that there is reasonable cause to find the city in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The four officers were injured on duty and assigned to light duty but Police Chief Ralph Mendoza has changed the department's policy so that officers can no longer stay on light duty indefinitely. Instead, they must take medical leave, seek retirement or find another job with the city. The officer's attorney, Rhonda Cates, said that the Justice Department must now either take up the case for the government or allow the officers to sue the city in civil court.

The Boerne, Fredericksburg and Kerrville police departments are going

to share a file server donated by GTE Corp. that will allow police to track stolen cars and criminals with laptop computers in their cruisers. In return for the server, Boerne will serve as a GTE test site. All three agencies will share the server as well as the cost of the software.

Members of the Plano neighborhood police division are patrolling in style after a local auto dealer donated five new Mercedes mountain bikes. The bikes, which are valued at \$2,000 each, are used in the affluent Dallas suburb to patrol the area's parks and more than 50 miles of bicycle and jogging trails.

John "Rocky" Riojas, a veteran of the San Antonio SWAT team, was shot and killed with his own gun Feb. 2. While on patrol as part of a property-crime task force aimed at catching burglary and theft suspects, Riojas followed a suspicious-looking man into a dark part of an apartment complex. A witness said that Riojas and the man struggled before the officer was shot in the forehead. Police have since arrested Manuel Garza and charged him with capital murder. Riojas's death was the first of a San Antonio SWAT officer in the line of duty since the unit was formed a quarter-century ago.

Arlington police Lieut. Martha A. Willbanks, a 28-year veteran who was the city's first female officer, died on Feb. 14 after a four-year battle with breast cancer. Remembered as a consummate professional who was independent and cool under pressure, Willbanks "broke a lot of ground there and went far beyond that," said Deputy Chief Gary Shipp, who added that to the best of his knowledge, she may have been the first female SWAT commander in the country.



CALIFORNIA — In the first week of February, five rape suspects were identified when genetic crime evidence entered into a state data base matched the DNA of felons already in jail for violent offenses. This brought to six the number of rape suspects identified this year through the data base. Last year, the state matched 17 suspects to cases. Current state law allows for samples to be taken from people convicted of rape, murder, attempted murder, voluntary manslaughter, domestic violence, kidnapping, child molestation, mayhem and torture. Attorney General Bill Lockyer said he wants to significantly expand the data base through new legislation that would allow authorities to collect DNA from all felons.

The Mariposa Superior Court has reversed a policy that called for criminal background checks on all reporters and news crews who were covering the murder trial of Cary Stayner. The policy had gone unchallenged until The Associated Press refused to comply and complaints were made by editors, media lawyers and the California First Amendment Coalition. Stayner confessed to killing three women last year who were staying at the Yosemite motel where he worked as a handyman.

He is already serving a life sentence for the murder of another woman who was a nature trail guide.

Armand Joseph Tiano, a retired Santa Clara County sheriff's lieutenant, was convicted on Feb. 13 of molesting two girls over a five-year period. The two girls, relatives of Tiano and now aged 15 and 16, testified during the trial. One of the girls was only 11 when he had begun molesting her. Tiano, a former president of the deputies' union who twice ran for sheriff, faces 15 years to life on each of three felony child-molestation counts.

On Feb. 5, Anaheim police officer Joseph Bailey fatally shot his wife, Michelle King, a former Los Angeles police officer, and then killed himself. After receiving a 911 call from a distraught man reporting that he had just shot his wife, police stormed a Fountain Valley home when repeated calls by police negotiators went unanswered and found both bodies. Neighbors said that King had been seriously ill for several months, possibly with cancer.

As the latest step taken by an ad-hoc committee of the Colton City Council, the next council meeting will give residents a chance to offer their opinions on the possible creation of a police review board for handling citizen complaints. The move came partly in response to a resident's complaint that the police had refused to assist her in making a citizen's arrest. Chief Randy Heusterberg pointed out, however, that the department has received fewer than 50 complaints in five years.

OREGON — Former Ashland police captain Lisa Brooks was acquitted Feb. 15 on charges of putting a dispatcher in a wrist hold. Brooks was just back from a standoff with a man yelling anti-Semitic slurs and wielding an antique rifle, and claimed that when she mispronounced the word "yarmulke," dispatcher Mary Ann Siegel asked, "What are you, stupid?" and then punched her in the shoulder. She said that she was under stress, and just reacted. Siegel's attorney argued that his client never punched Brooks, who was fired over the incident, had faced a year and a half in jail if she were convicted of fourth-degree assault and physical harassment.

An explosion on Feb. 9 in a home in North Portland that had been under investigation now has police believing that the residence was a drug lab. Two women were seen leaving the home moments after the blast. Portland police Lieut. Mike Heffley said that both probably needed medical care, as the lungs of survivors of methamphetamine explosions could collapse hours later. Animal-control officers later found two dogs that had survived the blast.

WASHINGTON — Last year, there were 95,029 crimes reported to Seattle police, a 9-percent decrease from the 1999 total of 104,091, and continuing a steady decline over the past five years. Every major category of crime declined, with the largest percentage decreases recorded in murder, down by 25 percent, and theft, down by 15 percent. Although auto thefts declined by 2.9 percent last year compared to 1999, the crime remains a serious problem in Seattle, with totals still running nearly 32 percent higher than they were five years ago.

People & Places

Getting even

Hurt so badly while making an arrest that she may have to give up her law enforcement career, Greensboro Police Officer **Theresa Arnold** sued her assailant and was awarded nearly a million dollars by a county judge this month.

Arnold, 39, filed the lawsuit last July as an outgrowth of the 1999 altercation in which **Kikkimon Maurice McKellar** fractured her shoulder, broke her pinkie and damaged her knee. Since then, the officer has undergone five operations and is still recuperating. She is not sure whether she can continue to serve on the force because it has taken her so long to recover. "I don't believe there is closure yet because my job is still somewhat in question," Arnold told *The (Greensboro) News & Record*.

In her lawsuit, Arnold asserted that she and another officer had been trying to restrain McKellar when he suddenly shoved his hand into his front pockets. In the struggle, McKellar twisted and fractured Arnold's finger, and then shoved her to the ground so hard that he broke her shoulder and injured her knee.

"It was a serious injury," said the plaintiff's attorney, **Joe Williams**. "If the tables were reversed and a law enforcement officer had injured a person he or she arrested to the same extent, the so-called victim would be asking for millions of dollars."

In March, McKellar entered a plea deal on charges that included resisting arrest and assaulting a government official. He was sentenced to 25 to 39 months in prison. Even if he cannot pay

the \$908,000 awarded Arnold by Guilford County Superior Court Judge **Henry E. Frye Jr.**, the judgment will serve as a lien against McKellar and could prevent him from getting future loans.

Greensboro Police Chief **Robert White** told *The News & Record* that he hopes the case serves as a warning to other would-be assailants. "It sends a message that you can't go out and induce injuries in police officers or any other government employees without there being some possible consequences," he said.

Miracle return

After having been given less than two years to live, a Dallas police officer was back on the job in February when an experimental treatment for cancer provided what he believes was nothing short of a miracle.

Robert Becker, 41, suffered from a cancer that had spread throughout his stomach and abdominal area. "My doctors told me there was nothing they could do," he said. "There was no way to remove it all without killing me."

Unable to withstand conventional chemotherapy, Becker underwent a technique known as "intraoperative hyperthermic chemotherapy." The treatment, devised by **Dr. Brian Logge**, combines extensive surgery, perfusion of a chemotherapy drug directly into the abdominal cavity, and heat. Medical students at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine, where it was developed, call it "shake and bake."

Becker was opened up from the top of his rib cage to his pelvic bone and then closed temporarily with the chemotherapy bag inside him. Every few minutes for two hours, surgical assistants jiggled his belly to make sure the solution got into every crack and crevice. During the surgery, Logge removed 54 pounds of malignant tumor, Becker's spleen and appendix, pieces of intestine and colon, and one-third of the patient's liver. Probes were inserted into the abdomen to heat the drugs. Logge then opened him up again to suction out the drugs and rinse the cavity.

Today, Becker is back full-time, albeit on light duty. The bulletproof vest he would have to wear as a patrol officer is too tight around the area where he has had a temporary colostomy. The plan is to close off the colostomy as soon as it is determined that Becker needs no additional surgery.

Sid on board

Leawood, Mo., will not be losing a police chief, it will be gaining a world-class law enforcement administrator in **Sid Mitchell**, who was elected this month to the board of the FBI's National Academy.

The 49-year-old Mitchell is a 1991 graduate of the prestigious three-month program for law enforcement officers. As board member in charge of what is called Section II, he will represent 15 states, three international regions and Mexico for the academy's 14,000-member alumni group, the National Academy Associates. Mitchell will be

one of only 11 people to sit on the board.

During the four-year term, he will progress through three vice presidential seats, becoming national president in 2008. And all of that in addition to his duties as Leawood's chief. "It's a long-term commitment," Mitchell told *The Kansas City Star*, "but it's definitely worth it."

The post will not impair his ability to lead the Leawood Police Department, he said. In fact, said Mitchell, the experience gained from serving as a board member will only benefit the agency. Deputy Chief **Craig Hill** believes it was his boss's ability to embrace new technology that helped earn him the spot. The position, he said, will raise Leawood's visibility to a national level.

"For Chief Mitchell to have the opportunity...to take on the responsibility of representing Section II...is a tremendous honor," Hill told *The Star*. "It puts us in a place on a national level that will allow for us so many things," including cutting edge technology, training tactics and law enforcement technique.

Never too old

Getting up at 6 a.m. and enduring four- and five-mile runs every day may not be every 49-year-old's idea of living a dream, but it was to **Robert Wilson**, who recently became one of the oldest rookie officers in the history of the Durham, N.C., Police Department.

Wilson had applied to the agency in 1977, but the timing wasn't right. With his wife pregnant with the couple's second child, he decided to keep his job as a computer operator at Liggett &

Meyers Tobacco Co. Wilson eventually became operations manager of computer information systems there in 1990.

Three years later, he left to start a lawn-care business, then held jobs in a construction firm and a fabric company. Finally, it was the right time.

"As an older guy, physical training was tough," Wilson told *The (Durham) Herald-Sun*. "It was really hard getting back into shape. I had basically been stagnant for 30 years, except for golf a couple of times a week."

After patrolling with a field training officer for 12 weeks, Wilson will spend another three months soloing under his FTO's supervision. Wilson's beat covers Duke University, South Square Mall, Farrington Road and New Hope Commons.

Said Sgt. **B.W. Ray**, "He's a mature officer [who's] level-headed and grasps information quickly. And Officer Wilson is excited about his job."

One week, Wilson and his FTO recovered two stolen vehicles from the county library. "The cars looked suspicious sitting at the library at that particular time of the night, so we called it in," he said.

Although he was concerned that other officers would think of him as an old guy — Wilson has been married 29 years and has two daughters — that has not been the case, he said. "I am accepted as one of the guys," he told *The Herald-Sun*.

Not at his desk

Being the top cop is apparently no desk job for either New York City Police Commissioner **Bernard Kerik** or

Fort Worth Police Chief **Ralph Mendoza**, both of whom made arrests this month.

Kerik was on patrol with three members of his security detail in the city's Hamilton Heights section when he spotted two men who appeared to be involved in a chase. When they were stopped, the suspects gave conflicting stories and false names. It turned out that the van being driven by **Lloyd Triplett**, 36, and **Lyndell Williams**, 34, had been stolen at gunpoint in Norfolk, Va., on Feb. 21. Triplett was charged with grand larceny and Williams with unauthorized use of a vehicle. Both were also charged with criminal possession of stolen property.

"I think it's good for a police officer working a Saturday or a Sunday or doing a midnight [shift] to see the police commissioner out there," Kerik told *Newsday*. The arrests were the third and fourth the commissioner has made since his appointment in August.

In Fort Worth, Mendoza had been watching television in his home when a neighbor knocked on the door to report the possible burglary of a house under construction. Afraid that the burglar would get away before officers could respond to a 911 call, Mendoza donned his sneakers and grabbed his gun and raced down the street. He found that neighbors had blocked the suspect's pickup truck with a car.

The suspect, 28-year-old **Adam Flores**, was found to have drug paraphernalia in his vehicle and what appeared to be crack cocaine. He admitted to burglarizing two other homes under construction to support a drug habit.

Mendoza told *The Fort Worth Star-Telegram* that he admired the civilians who had gotten involved. "They took a little bit of a risk," he said. "I get paid to take that risk."

Law Enforcement News

Founded 1975

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice,
City University of New York
Gerald W. Lynch, President

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Law Enforcement News is © 2001 and published twice monthly (once monthly during July and August) by L.E.N. Inc. and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 555 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019. Telephone: (212) 237-8442. Fax: (212) 237-8486. E-mail: len@jjc.cuny.edu. Subscription rates: \$28 per year (22 issues). Advertising rates available upon request.

Requests for permission to reprint any portion of Law Enforcement News in any form should be addressed to Marie Simonetti Rosen, Publisher. ISSN 0364-1724. Law Enforcement News is available in microform from University Microfilms Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Dept. P.R., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.



Home, sweet home

Officers of the Dallas Police Department's Northwest Patrol Division have a new home (above), the result of a public/private sector partnership involving the City of Dallas and Southwest Airlines. The substation, the first to be built in the city in more than a decade, was designed by Brown Reynolds Walford Architects, and opened ahead of schedule and under budget. At bottom left, the station's main desk. (Photos: James F. Wilson)

Diversity training for Portland officers includes the transgender community

Prompted by the hiring of transgender and transsexual employees, who are now covered under the city's civil rights ordinance, the Portland Police Bureau has been providing in-service training to officers in order to deepen their understanding of a group many have little personal knowledge of.

The communications classes began in November and will continue through September. During the one-hour sessions, presentations are made by volunteers from the transgender community, who talk about their own life experiences, the variations within the community, and psychological and physiological issues. Then they answer personal questions from their audience.

Although the classes are recent, the department's interest in the sexual orientation issue is not, said Capt. Robert Kauffman, commander of the police bureau's training division. Tom Potter, who led the agency from 1989 to 1993, was the first police chief to walk in uniform at the city's gay rights parade. While it was controversial at the time, said Kauffman, the department has been doing it ever since. "He kind of set the standard for that," he told Law Enforcement News.

Potter's daughter is a lesbian, said Kauffman, and from a parent's point of view Potter had wanted both patrol officers and detectives to be aware of that community's special needs. "He wanted everybody to understand what was really going on with these folks when we came into contact with them."

The civil rights issues surrounding sexual orientation were also of great concern to the department at that time in terms of its community policing initiatives, Kauffman added.

Subsequently, the department formed a sexual minority roundtable, an advisory council to the chief's of-

fice, in the early 1990s. The group, comprising various representatives from within that community, meets once a month to talk about police policies, public safety issues, crime and fear of crime with either the chief or the assistant chief.

The inclusion of gender identity under the city's anti-bias ordinance was unanimously approved by the City Council on Dec. 13, 2000. One of the

"We're not asking you to date them or anything, just come to work. You're all wearing blue suits, go out there and do your job."

— Capt. Robert Kauffman,
Portland Police Training Division

first statements made during the training, said Kauffman, is that transgendered and transsexual individuals are now a protected class. "That means that if this type of behavior occurs, you're in deep kumchee," he said. "Don't do it, it's against the law."

Because of this, said Kauffman, he has been told by one of the training volunteers that Portland is gaining a reputation as a safe place for transgendered individuals to live. Within the department, he said, there are a number of transgendered and transsexual officers and civilian staff.

"For example, we have a non-sworn guy who is in his late 30s, about 6-foot-3, a quiet fellow, in one of our support positions," Kauffman told LEN. "You don't know who these people are. Then I went to give a talk to one of these organizations and there he is in a black, sequined cocktail dress and 4-inch

spikes that make him almost 7-feet tall. He said he would appreciate if I didn't tell anyone, and I said, 'Knock yourself out.'"

Gender identity on the force is rarely an issue with transsexuals who have already made the physiological change from male to female, or female to male, said Kauffman. "Nobody asks: 'Are you really a woman?'" But transgendered individuals, who may include cross-dressers, pre-operative transsexuals and those whose gender is ambiguous, present the department with a challenge.

There have been employees who have made the transition while on the job, said Kauffman. One problem is how partners, who often know each other better than they know their own spouses, continue working together when one of them decides to change genders. "All of a sudden, you come in and say, 'You know, in my heart of hearts, I've always felt like a man and tomorrow, you can start calling me George. And by the way, I'm going to the locker next to you.'" Not only is it a culture shock, said Kauffman, but a personal issue.

"The first thing that goes through my mind is she has been lying to me all these years," he said. "We've had this life-bond together in critical situations, I thought I could trust her with my deepest secrets, and all this time I find out she really wants to be a man and going through all this."

Roni Lang, 69, is a male cross-dresser who as a volunteer deals with that issue in training presentations to police. Pre-operative transsexuals, Lang told LEN, need understanding not only from fellow officers, but from management to deal with issues such as bathrooms, showers and locker rooms.

"Of course, the police department is a pretty macho organization and they kind of rib each other a lot, said Lang. "And that's all right, but when a person is transitioning, it's a very emotional time for them also."

Kauffman agreed. Using the right pronoun is important to these individuals and the department tries to deal with that, he said. "It's not so much dealing with the individual in transition; that's usually taken care of by the psychologist, the psychiatrist, medical doctors and counselors. They've pretty much made a major commitment to this. The issue is the coworkers."

Within the ranks, there are officers who believe that such people violate religious and moral codes, he said. "That's there whether we like it or not." Then there are those who announce that they will not be showering with anybody. "Well, you know, we're not asking you to date them or anything, just come to work," Kauffman said. "You're all wearing blue suits, go out there and do your job."

Lang, who prefers the use of feminine pronouns, said she does not expect to see enormous improvement as a result of the training, because the police bureau already acts so well toward the sexual minority community. In Lang's experience, very few people who are cross-dressed run into problems with officers, yet the fear is still there.

"One of the things we talk about in class is if a police officer stops someone and they're cross-dressed, that person is going to be even more concerned and maybe more upset, more nervous than usual," said Lang. "What I try to get across is that we don't want special privileges, but we may be more upset about the situation."

The training, Lang said, lets the

Whatever suits you

A Bexar County, Texas, deputy was given permission in February to begin wearing a woman's uniform in anticipation of a sex-change operation.

The deputy, whom Sheriff Ralph Lopez would identify only as a top lieutenant in the patrol division, is the first police officer in the state to undergo gender reassignment. He has begun receiving counseling and hormone treatments ahead of surgery. When counselors say it is appropriate, the deputy will begin wearing women's clothing.

Lopez has ordered the department to mind its manners. "We should be supportive of a person who is making a drastic individual choice in his life," he told The Houston Chronicle. "We have to support the legality and his right to do that."

community know that as long as they obey the law, they will not be stopped merely because of their gender identity. "There is always that fear and there always will be, but you begin to realize that they [police] are human and they treat you with kindness and courtesy," she said.

Given the department's training philosophy, noted Kauffman, it is not unusual that the classes are meant to provide guidance for behavior both inside and outside the agency. The police bureau considers its officers as part of the community, blurring the line that separates it from the workplace. The baseline commitment, said Kauffman, is to treat both the public and coworkers with fairness and equality. "So let's get away from this thin blue line and all this other stuff," he said.

Youthful indiscretions?

Taking a different road with first-time drug violators

Taking a kinder, gentler approach to some first-time juvenile offenders, police and village officials in Wayne, Ill., will deal locally with those caught drinking or possessing small amounts of marijuana, under an ordinance adopted by village council members in February.

The new policy calls for teenagers to sit down with parents or lawyers, the village attorney and the officer involved in the arrest to try and work out a punishment that will fit the crime. If the parties cannot come to a resolution, police still have the option of charging the juvenile under state laws. Moreover, the ordinance treats teenagers who are children and those who are legally adults the same.

Chief Robert Heitzman cited a hypothetical case of "a couple of 16-year-olds and a couple of 17-year-olds, all four drinking." Formerly, he said, two would be charged as adults and two as minors. But, he added, "The case is that they are friends, they play together, they whatever together, they obviously drink together, two go into the juvenile system. In this type of situation, those four people should be treated the same unless one has a history we're not aware of. It's not like you have two 18-year-olds and a couple of 12-year-olds."

Heitzman told Law Enforcement News that he had asked the village at-

Chief would rather "take these first-time offenders and work their fannies off doing community service."

torney to research similar ordinances in other municipalities. While many have such local statutes, officials do not always elect to use them. Those that do have such laws restrict them to alcohol, drawing the line at marijuana.

In neighboring Geneva, underage drinkers are sometimes given a \$50 fine for a first offense, but all drug crimes go to court. St. Charles Police Chief Don Shaw told The Chicago Daily Herald that he specifically requested that drinking by minors not be included in offenses handled locally in an administrative hearing. Officers occasionally just call parents and issue a warning for possession if the alcohol has not been consumed. He sends drug cases to court, however, to send a message.

"I'm not naive," Shaw told The Daily Herald. "I went to college. I'm aware that young people are going to experiment with drugs. But I think they need to know the seriousness with which it can impact their lives. I think for us to handle that administratively doesn't do that. It doesn't hold them accountable."

Yet Heitzman said that over the years, he has seen alcohol exert a far

more destructive impact on families than marijuana. "Everyone said if you use marijuana, you're going to end up doing coke, heroin, that progression thing," he observed. "But I've seen alcohol become an accepted form in some of these families, and I've seen that have more of a long-term effect."

Young kids make mistakes, he said.

It is better to craft a response that is more appropriate to the offender's family situation, record and a variety of other factors, rather than automatically saddle them with a criminal record.

"I would rather take these first-time offenders and work their fannies off doing community service — preferably alongside a police officer" than charge them, said Heitzman. "If I were just a normal parent, not the chief of police, and my child got caught with marijuana, I would be very concerned he would have a state charge, a Class B or C mis-

demeanor, on his record, which could have an influence on a sensitive job issue later on."

Parents, he noted, are often more concerned about fighting a case in court than with addressing why their child was drinking or smoking marijuana. The new policy will help return the focus to the teenager and not the charge.

"We don't have much crime out here," said Heitzman, "I would rather spend my time doing something like this. I would rather take a hands-on approach."

Bottoms-up! C-OP seen giving more officers specific beat responsibility

Some 90 percent of all local law enforcement agencies serving populations of 50,000 or more helped facilitate community policing goals by giving patrol officers responsibility for specific geographic beats, according to a new study released by the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The report, "Community Policing in Local Police Departments, 1997 and 1999," queried 3,246 state and local law enforcement agencies about their community policing personnel, training, policies and programs. Among its key findings was that the number of designated community officers grew during

the years of the study from 4 percent to 21 percent, or to 113,000 full-time sworn personnel engaged in such activities during 1999.

As of June 30 of that year, the report said, 69 percent of local police departments serving 96 percent of all residents had met with community groups in the past year, while 40 percent had formed problem-solving partnerships within the previous three years.

Researchers also determined that 87 percent of all local officers as of June 30, 1999, were employed by departments that provided community polic-

ing training for new recruits. And during 1999, 92 percent of residents were served by municipal law enforcement agencies that provided routine access to crime statistics or crime maps. Two years earlier, that figure was just 70 percent.

According to the study, 76 percent of the departments that held regular meetings with citizens' groups met with school officials and students, 52 percent met with neighborhood associations and 50 percent with business groups. Forty-five percent met with senior citizen groups and 41 percent with domestic violence groups.

Racial profiling: The beat goes on

New developments from the White House to the statehouses

According to a memo released by the White House on Feb. 28, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft has been directed by President Bush to "review the use by federal law enforcement authorities of race as a factor in conducting stops, searches and other investigative procedures," as a step toward reducing the practice of racial profiling.

The memo also directs Ashcroft to work with Congress and state and local law enforcement officials to collect data and "assess the extent and nature of any such practices."

In a speech before a joint session of Congress the day before, Bush said: "We will not hinder the work of our nation's brave police officers. But by stopping the abuses of a few, we will add to the public confidence our police officers earn and deserve."

Police leaders have asked to meet with White House officials to discuss a proposed panel to examine racial profiling and other issues. No date for such a meeting has been set.

In other developments around the nation on the racial profiling issue:

ARKANSAS — On the grounds that data collection would be too costly and dangerous, state lawmakers in February pulled a bill that would have required state police to gather information on traffic stops as a means of tracking racial profiling.

COLORADO — State Representative Peter Groff, a Denver Democrat, said in January that he will reintroduce a bill that would require the state patrol and local law enforcement in jurisdictions with populations greater than 25,000 to collect data at traffic stops. A state analysis of the cost involved in sorting through the information, however,

places it at more than \$100,000 for each department and hundreds of man-hours.

MARYLAND — A bill that would require officers to record racial data from all traffic stops garnered support last month from more than 20 witnesses who appeared before the House Commerce and Government Matters Committee, including elected officials and representatives of chiefs of police, sheriffs and the Fraternal Order of Police.

MINNESOTA — While Minneapolis and St. Paul police chiefs Robert Olson and William Finney pushed this month for a statewide, state-funded study that would require officers to collect racial data from traffic stops, Gov. Jesse Ventura told members of the state's police chiefs' and sheriffs' associations that he was not inclined to mandate the gathering of such information. Ventura's budget contains \$280,000 for such a study, but the governor said he would be willing to redirect the money to training instead.

MISSOURI — Data from 4,480 traffic stops made by Columbia police showed that blacks drivers made up 20 percent of those who were pulled over, although they represent just 10 percent of the city's population, according to the 1990 census. The report, released in February, also found that 42 percent of cars searched by local police had black drivers.

Under Missouri's racial profiling law, the 712 police agencies in the state are required to hand in a report on the race and gender of drivers they stopped, and departments that fail to do so by March, or that refuse to, could face a loss of state funds. By February, 127 reports had been turned in, said a spokesman for the attorney general's office.

NEW JERSEY — The four victims of a 1998 shooting by state police on the New Jersey Turnpike, which ignited the national furor over racial profiling, were awarded \$12.9 million in a settlement with the state in February. In another development related to the case, state Attorney General John J. Farmer Jr. has asked the New Jersey Supreme Court to let stand criminal charges against the two troopers involved in the April 1998 turnpike shooting. In October, the charges against troopers John Hogan and James Kenna were dismissed by a Superior Court judge. An appeals court unanimously reversed that ruling on Jan. 5, however, reinstating charges of attempted murder and aggravated assault against Kenna and aggravated assault against Hogan.

Officials from the state troopers' union have pointed to a dramatic decline in the number of drug arrests made on the turnpike and Garden State Parkway as evidence of the chilling effect that fear of racial-profiling accusations has had on the force. The number of drug charges resulting from stops on the turnpike fell from 494 in 1999 to 370 last year, and from 783 to 350 on the parkway.

Although figures released in January as part of a mandatory report to the Department of Justice showed an increase in the percentage of minority drivers stopped on the turnpike, from 38 percent to 40 percent, officials cautioned that no conclusions could be drawn from the data. Among other problems cited was the difference in the length of reporting time between the most recent figures and those with which they were compared. The first period, from Jan. 1 to April 30, 2000, was four months; the second, from May 1 to Oct. 31, was six months.

OREGON — The initial results of a 10-month

study of racial profiling by the Hillsboro Police Department, released in February, found that while officers probably do not target minorities, they might be more likely to search, arrest or ticket a black driver once a stop has occurred.

PENNSYLVANIA — Computerized records maintained by the Philadelphia Police Department will now include not only the race, age and gender of people stopped, and the basis for the action, but will also note the same characteristics of the officer. The information will be available to the PPD's internal affairs unit and to civil rights lawyers.

SOUTH DAKOTA — Requiring police to collect racial data on the state's large Indian population during traffic stops would only serve to further alienate that group, said Representative Bill Napoli, a Rapid City Republican whose impassioned speech swayed lawmakers to kill the legislation by a vote of 11-2.

UTAH — A bill that would have required drivers to list a racial category on their license, so that it could be recorded by police in the event of a traffic stop, died in the state Senate this month after a vote of 13-13. The bill was supported by law enforcement agencies, the state attorney general and the governor's office.

WASHINGTON — The creation of a Tacoma Police Department task force to examine racial profiling was approved in January by the City Council. Police found recently that nearly one-fourth of the 31,114 traffic tickets issued in 1999 went to black drivers.

Points well made:

Special skills are worth more in Mesa

A point system that translates into extra money per month is the plan Mesa police officials are hoping will help retain veteran officers in an atmosphere of near outthroat competition for experienced law enforcement personnel.

The Career Enhancement Program, as the plan is called, is intended to keep skilled personnel on the force by promoting job satisfaction and professional growth. Open to all officers, below the rank of sergeant and Master Police Officer, it assigns point values to a variety of categories, including fluency in Spanish, driving accident-free for a period of two years, and being a certified paramedic or a field training officer. Compensation ranges from \$40 to \$160 a month for the most experienced officers.

"The concept of the Career Enhancement Program is to allow officers to stay at the front-line levels, and as they attain skills and abilities throughout their career, we're going to compensate them for it," Comdr. Dan Sahin, who chaired the committee that developed the program, told Law Enforcement News. "It's a retention mechanism, a bonus to people who we want to stick around because they have a certain level of expertise we can benefit from."

A four-level, phased program, the initiative will be implemented starting July 1. New officers must earn 15 points and have served three years since graduating from the academy to be eligible for the first level. To progress,

they must stay at the current level for two years and earn more points. To reach Level 4, they must have 65 points and have served two years at Level 3. "The higher amount would be the eight-year minimum," said Saban.

According to an interoffice memo from Sahin to Chief Jan Strauss, the cost for one year's compensation for 63 officers now eligible for Level 4 will be \$131,040. In 2002, officers eligible

for Levels 3 and 4 with at least seven years on the force will be compensated at a cost of \$336,960. The following year, when three of four levels of officers seek bonuses, it will cost more than \$500,000, and over \$600,000 in 2004 when the program is fully phased in and officers at all levels become eligible.

In addition to numerous skills and certifications that are being assigned point values, full-time specializations

are also part of the program. Points will be given for assignments to the aviation section, bike unit, crime scene officer, traffic section, DARE/GREAT programs, and the special investigations division. Any officer who returns to patrol for at least one year from a specialty assignment will receive 10 points.

Officers must also have an overall performance rating of "meets standards" or better on the last two years'

performance ratings and be approved by the Professional Enhancement Committee, a team composed of a lieutenant, a sergeant and an officer appointed by the chief. Should a permanent promotion be made to sergeant, participation in the program ends.

"In Arizona, it's dog-eat-dog," said Saban. "We've got posters of other agencies inside our city asking them to come to their city."

Departments dangle dollar signs in front of would-be police recruits' eyes

As the recruitment crisis in law enforcement drags on, a number of departments around the nation are sweetening the pot for applicants by offering sign-on bonuses.

The Los Angeles Police Department, which had set a goal two years ago of putting 10,000 officers on the street, is offering \$2,000 in relocation money as well as medical insurance for recruits' domestic partners. It has also promised to increase basic pay from \$42,000 to \$47,000 if the rookie has a four-year college degree.

Officials in DeKalb County, Ga., have included in their \$419-million budget sufficient funding to pay a \$1,000 signing bonus to recruits. Out of a total of 1,180 sworn positions, the agency needs to fill 212. Salaries have been raised to \$32,172, compared with

\$30,783 for the city of Atlanta.

Veteran officers are the apple of some police departments' eyes. "We're experiencing what every other agency is, the qualified pool of applicants out there is small so we're trying to tap into a resource we really haven't tapped into before — already certified officers," said Cpl. Tim Green, coordinator of training and recruitment for the Burlington, Vt., Police Department.

The agency has initiated a two-level bonus system, offering \$3,000 for in-state certified officers, and \$2,000 for those with out-of-state certification.

"We can benefit from their experience," Green told Law Enforcement News. "It takes us 17 weeks less to train a Vermont certified officer than someone with no experience, and about 13 weeks less for an out-of-state person."

Green said the department is hoping that the bonus will attract those who have considered relocating but are straddling the fence. "The bonus helps with relocation and making that financial decision to move," he said.

In the city of Hinesburg, Vt., Chief Chris Morrell is offering bonuses of as high as \$5,000 if recruits will stay on the job for a set period.

Bonuses have worked so successfully for the Pasco County, Fla., Sheriff's Department that 16 deputies have been hired since Sept. 1. Shortly before leaving office at the end of December, Sheriff Lee Cannon said he no longer needed to offer the \$5,000 incentive.

"We got our positions filled," he told The St. Petersburg Times. "We're developing somewhat of a waiting list."

With the new road deputy assignments, the department was able to transfer 29 deputies to other positions and give six of them raises. Two deputies promoted to sergeant also got raises.

The news is good in another Gulf Coast county. The sheriff's office in Manatee County is offering \$1,000 bonuses for dispatchers and \$3,000 for corrections deputies who are state certified, said Capt. Ray Fabec. Twelve of the agency's 39 dispatcher positions are open. Nearly 50 corrections officers must be hired to make up its authorized strength of 257 positions, said spokesman Dave Brnstow.

"It's bad," he told The Sarasota Herald-Tribune. "We've tried to do what we could with Band-Aid solutions. We are now taking extreme measures."

U.S. teens outdo Euro counterparts in illicit drug use

One-fourth of 10th graders in the United States have used illicit drugs, as compared with one in every 10 students in European countries with the highest rates of use, according to a study of 31 nations released in February at the meeting of the World Health Organization in Stockholm.

Analyzing the findings of an anonymous survey sent in 1999 to 14,000 American high school students and 95,000 students in 30 European countries, researchers from the State University of New York in Albany found that 41 percent of 10th graders in the United States said they had tried marijuana and 23 percent had tried other illegal drugs. In Europe, less than half that number — 17 percent — said they had tried pot and just 6 percent said they had used other substances.

But European teenagers were more likely to have consumed alcohol and smoked cigarettes, said the study. Twenty-six percent of American 10th graders said they had smoked at least one cigarette in the past 30 days, as compared to 37 percent of Europeans. Sixty-one percent of teenagers in Europe said they had consumed alcohol in that time, compared with 40 percent of Americans youngsters.

"If you're having a war on drugs, one measure is within a comparative perspective," said Thor Bjarnason, a sociologist at SUNY-Albany and co-author of the report, the European School Survey Project on Alcohol and

Drugs. "If drug use is increasing at a slower rate in your country, that could be a victory."

Drug use in the United States, with the exception of Ecstasy, has in fact slowed. An analysis of that will come with the second phase of the project, said researchers.

The differences in drug use is striking, noted Bjarnason. "That's one in four students in this country," he told The New York Times. "Even in the European countries with the highest rates, it's only one in 10."

The study was designed so that it could be accurately compared to the University of Michigan's "Monitoring the Future" project. That study, which has surveyed students on various issues for the past 26 years, is considered the best barometer of drug use trends.

Researchers said they were particularly interested in marijuana use in the Netherlands, where drugs laws are relatively permissive. While the number of Dutch 10th graders who tried the drug was higher than the national average in Europe — 28 percent as compared to 17 percent — Ireland, Britain, France and the Czech Republic all had higher rates, as did the United States.

Lloyd Johnston, head of the Monitoring the Future study, cited the more relaxed attitudes in Europe toward drinking and smoking, as well as cultural differences, for the slower spread of marijuana and other drugs outside the United States.



Brick tunnel

Customs agents in February discovered a tunnel, seen above, in Nogales, Ariz., near the U.S.-Mexican border. In the house where the tunnel terminated, Customs agents discovered 198 bricks of cocaine, weighing 840 pounds. (Reuters)

Changes in M.O. hamper drug-bust activities of NJSP 'hotel squad'

The ability of the New Jersey State Police's six-member hotel squad to make drug busts has been sharply undercut due to a change last summer in the regulations governing the unit's investigative activities, a state police official said in February.

Lieut. Col. Vince Modarelli, the NJSP's second highest-ranking officer, said that information from hotel registration cards supplied by desk clerks had allowed the unit to work with federal authorities to determine whether a visitor had recently crossed the border or had been arrested before.

The squad was responsible for some of the state's biggest drug busts. Last year, it made \$24.4 million in seizures, and the state police as a whole, \$33.6 million.

But new guidelines were put in place by the office of Attorney General John Farmer Jr. amid the continuing furor over racial profiling. The unit,

which is now called the Interstate Drug Trafficking Squad, had been helped by clerks who were asked to tip off investigators as to guests that exhibited traits of drug dealers. Such characteristics could include a length of stay not commensurate with the amount of luggage, paying in cash, and license plates from the South or Southwest.

The hotel program had been can-

celed for several months in 1999 when it was charged with asking clerks to identify Hispanic guests.

"What's wrong with paying cash?" Joseph McNamara, former police chief of San Jose and now a fellow at the Hoover Institution in California, told The (Berkeley County) Record. "It's like a police state where all behavior is suspicious."

Jury still out on whether sex-crime lists cut crime

As an investigative tool, sex offender registration provides police with a ready file of suspects, and parole officers with a way to supervise newly released convicts. But as an effective means of reducing sex crimes, there is little research to show whether notification and registration work, according to some Minnesota experts.

State lawmakers there last year appropriated \$18.4 million to improve offender tracking and establish a framework for a criminal justice information system. The improvements, made under the statute known as Katie's Law, are the sixth to be added to the state's decade-old registration statute.

Katie's Law, prompted by 1999 abduction and murder of Katie Poirier by a man convicted of six previous sex offenses, requires offenders to report their vehicles, secondary addresses where they might spend time, and property. It also mandates that some juvenile offenders register for life and makes failing to register a felony.

Yet observers maintain that offenders continue to slip through the cracks.

"It's only a matter of time before state legislatures are going to ask if this is worth the money they're spending," said Wayne Logan, an associate professor at William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul. "We only have anecdotal evidence of success and failure."

With an increase of more than 4,000 registered sex offenders since 1999, police agencies in Minnesota now keep track of about 12,500 on file. One state agency, according to The Minneapolis Star Tribune, has estimated that up to one-third of those in the data base may

not be living at their registered address.

For example, Minneapolis police in September stopped convicted sex offender Brandon L. Guenther, 32, for a traffic violation and found out he had failed to register. It was his third failure to do so since 1998.

"It's unrealistic to assume that by a magic tick of the clock they will stop doing criminal acts, especially when that act is just filling out a piece of paper," said Will Alexander, community notification coordinator for the state Department of Corrections. "Ultimately, the responsibility for behaving in a lawful manner rests with the offender and not upon police checking on them."

Notification may be a deterrent because it brings offenders into constant contact with law enforcement, Alexander told The Star-Tribune, but it can also backfire. Anthony L. Sweats, also known as Tacuma Mwanza, left town in January when Minneapolis officials set up a meeting to notify residents that he would be moving to the neighborhood.

"Notification and registration aren't cure-alls," he said, although they can aid in the prosecution, incarceration, supervision and treatment of offenders.

And the public wants it, said Virginia State Police Lieut. T.W. Turner. More than 6,000 violent sex offender are sent address verifications there every three months. The process costs approximately \$140,000 a year, but there were nearly 10 million searches on the state's sex offender Web site.


"It's costly, but I think registration and notification is a worthwhile program," he told The Star-Tribune.

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Are college programs for Mass. cops just diploma mills?

Continued from Page 1

"Cops live in a closed culture," he told *The Boston Globe*. "Going to the classes opens us up." Nee recalled one session in which the relative of an executed prisoner spoke to students. "I've been for the death penalty all my life, but what this person had to say just blew me away, and I wasn't the only one. It really got me thinking on things."

Police have no say in which schools are selected to run the courses, Nee told *Law Enforcement News*. "We just go to the schools they say are accredited by the state. If there are four or five schools where people tend to go the most, they might offer the best satellite campus, they might offer something closest to home, something closest to the shift of the officers that fits their needs," said Nee. "I would say these particular schools, as opposed to a Northeastern or a BU [Boston University], also tend to suit the officer's

schedule and family life."

Judith I. Gill, the state's Chancellor of Higher Education, has proposed that schools submit a written statement describing the dimensions of their programs, which would then be analyzed with the help of experts in law enforcement and criminal justice from around the country. Such factors as class size, class location, the educational background of instructors and the academic rigor of the courses would all be taken into consideration, although no interviews with instructors or students are planned.

The Board of Higher Education, however, has limited supervisory power over private colleges and universities. Course offerings do not have to be approved by the board because schools established before 1943 need not submit any information.

"These programs should be stressing academics, not more training,"

Ronald E. Vogel, chairman of ACJS's academic review committee, told *The Globe*. "It may seem like a fine line, but it really isn't."

The curriculum, said Vogel, should cover psychology, sociology, accounting and public administration, helping officers to become better thinkers and managers.

But such a wide array of courses may not be permitted under the Quinn Bill. Several years ago, the Legislature rejected a move to expand the curriculum to include other majors. To qualify for the bonus, the Quinn Bill limits officers to studies in law enforcement or pre-law.

Jack McDerritt, associate dean for research at Northeastern's College of Criminal Justice, told *The Globe* that an "unholy alliance" has sprung up between officers looking for Quinn Bill credits and colleges looking to fill their night school programs.

"You can see it in their eyes when I tell them what will be expected of them here: 'Where's the door?' They don't have the time," he said, "or the interest to do the work that should be expected of them."

When it comes to night-school curriculums in criminal justice, the failure of small colleges to meet academic standards hurts policing in a number of ways, said Greene. It creates the illusion that there is an actual educational process occurring, he said, when people are getting credit for life experience or for classes that offer little challenge. Po-

Drug money pays deputies' tuition

Despite the withdrawal by Florida lawmakers of a bill that would have required all law enforcement officers in the state to have a two-year college degree by 2005, the Nassau County Sheriff's Department is moving forward with its plan to send its deputies to school.

According to Sheriff W.R. Geiger, the program will be paid for with confiscated drug funds. Although the initial money for school will be laid out by deputies, the agency will pick up the tab for any deputy who earns a C average or better, he told *Law Enforcement News*.

"I'm very fortunate, I have a drug interdiction team and I'm right here on I-95 and it works beautiful," said Geiger, whose jurisdiction sits in the northeast corner of the state, just below the Georgia state line. "The last eight officers I got, I paid for all their cars, their uniforms, guns, all their equipment. The only thing the county had to pay was their salaries. I just wanted to put it [seized drug assets] to the best use I could."

Geiger contends that once his deputies attain an associate's degree in criminal justice, they will want to continue their education. He said the legislation, which was withdrawn in February at the request of the Florida

Sheriffs' Association, got bogged down when smaller, rural counties complained that the state would have to supplement salaries in order to draw enough applicants. Unlike the Duval County Sheriff's Department in Jacksonville, said Geiger, most agencies do not pay a starting salary of \$28,000 to \$29,000.

"The smaller counties said, 'If you want to supplement \$10,000, we'll be glad to meet your requirements,'" he told *LEN*.

It is not that Florida's sheriffs are opposed to higher education, stressed Tom Berlinger, a spokesman for the sheriff's association. A recent survey by the Florida Chiefs of Police Association, he said, found that 77 percent of responding agencies were experiencing recruitment problems and 54 percent had retention problems.

"We're no different," Berlinger told *LEN*. "There are 67 sheriff's offices in Florida and clearly 25 of them have fewer than 15 deputies. Many of these people are making in the neighborhood of \$20,000 to \$21,000 a year. We didn't think in a million years that those smaller counties — which amount to over a third of the state — would be able to recruit college graduates anytime in the near future."

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lice organizations, he added, also share responsibility.

"If the goal is to get the police profession to rise, in part by virtue of education, then as a police leader in this

state I would be arguing for the strongest and most stringent educational standards that we can get to raise the boats," he said. "But I don't hear anybody doing that."

Moonlight plan for Va. cops lowers rents, raises questions

An ordinance passed this month in Herndon, Va., which allows police to moonlight at a local apartment complex in exchange for living there at half the usual rent has some residents and civil libertarians questioning whether property managers or municipal officials will be responsible for the actions of armed officers.

According to Kent Willis, executive director of the Virginia chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, off-duty officers are typically hired through their police departments. By hiring an officer directly, as qualified by a rent reduction, accountability becomes murkier, he said.

"There are a lot of nebulous situations that police find themselves in when they moonlight," Willis told *The Washington Post*. "This one's even more nebulous."

Before the ordinance, which applies to all businesses in town, Herndon officers were allowed to work off-duty but were prohibited from acting as private-security guards in town. Employers frequently hired officers from Fairfax, who did not carry weapons while moonlighting.

Officers will wear their uniforms and act with full police authority when working during their off-duty hours. To book suspects, however, they will have

to call in on-duty police.

Not all residents at the Stuart Woods apartments, whose manager provided the impetus behind the ordinance, are happy about the police presence. While it would be unlikely that officers would look for minor violations, any offense would potentially be enforceable, Police Chief Toussaint E. Summers told *The Post*.

That's precisely what has some people concerned. "I would worry that they'd start going after some of the small things," one resident told *The Post*. "I got fined \$50 by police patrolling here last week for not having a Fairfax County sticker on my car."

Supreme Court continues its balancing act between police needs & citizens' rights

In the effort to seek balance between the needs of law enforcement and a citizen's right to privacy, the U.S. Supreme Court in February came down on the side of police in one of two cases heard last year dealing with that issue.

The Justices voted 8-to-1 this month that a Sullivan, Ill., officer acted appropriately four years ago when he prevented a man believed to have marijuana hidden under his sofa from entering his home. For about two hours, Charles McArthur stood outside his trailer with the officer, whom he refused to allow inside without a warrant.

Police, said Justice Stephen Breyer, had every reason to think that had McArthur been permitted back inside,

he would have destroyed the contraband. The defendant even admitted that he would have done so. Law enforcement "imposed a restraint that was both limited and tailored reasonably to secure law enforcement needs while protecting privacy interests," Breyer wrote.

A second case, heard in November and expected to be decided before the court's term ends in June, concerned a defendant who claimed his Fourth Amendment rights were violated when narcotics detectives in Florence, Ore., acting without a search warrant, used a thermal imaging device to determine whether he was using high-intensity lights to grow marijuana.

Deputy Solicitor General Michael

Dreeban argued to the justices that using the device was not like using an "X-ray machine" which would allow police to see inside the home. "We are not learning what activities are going on or where they are going on in the house," he said.

The information garnered from the heat scan was used, along with a tip from an informant and electric company records, to get a warrant for Danny Lee Kyllo's home. In 1992, agents searching the house found drug paraphernalia and more than 100 marijuana plants.

While binoculars are common, thermal imagers are not, argued Kyllo's attorney Kenneth Lerner.

Greenberg:

A drug strategy for the new millennium

By Martin A. Greenberg

Although there is no practical, accurate way to gauge the sentiments of 280 million Americans on any one issue, at the dawn of a new millennium it appears to many people that if the country is to make progress against drug abuse, we should not give up hope, and that all Americans need to share in the responsibility for tackling this problem. Each of us has a positive role to play, whether we be government officials or students, law enforcement officers or factory workers, teachers or religious leaders, health-care providers or retirees. In a nutshell, there is a wide range of tasks that can be undertaken by citizens who are concerned about the drug problem.

Police currently use a variety of informal and formal procedures to address the problem of drug abuse. Informal means include warnings, escorting the inebriate home or arranging for transportation home, and referring nondisorderly inebriates to civil detoxification facilities and mental health centers.

The formal involvement of police is better known, due to the keeping of arrest records and the involvement of other official agencies of social control. Generally, the police have traditionally tried to eliminate the supply of drugs to the user and to arrest those individuals found to be in possession of drugs. Multijurisdictional task forces, consent searches, buy-and-bust operations, crop eradication, asset forfeiture and various types of stings are probably the most common types of formal police involvement in the pursuit of drug traffickers.

At the local level, police efforts include several well known educational and nontraditional approaches, including classes taught by police officers in local classrooms, improvements in street conditions and encouraging citizens to report drug dealing.

The availability of new technologies has dra-

(Martin A. Greenberg is an assistant professor of criminal justice at Ulster County Community College in Stone Ridge, N.Y. He is the author of "Prohibition Enforcement: Charting a New Mission" (Charles C. Thomas, 1999).

matically changed traditional enforcement strategies in the battle against narcotics. Some of these innovations involve greater levels of governmental intrusion than others. For example, new infrared technology can now detect the number of people and their locations in buildings, while ion scanning equipment can detect cocaine residue on paper money. The concept of "zero tolerance" has fostered the use of checkpoints for controlling drunken drivers, drug users and illegal gun owners. While some of these developments are more intrusive than others, a lot depends upon the discretion, skill and knowledge of the enforcement agents employing them.

Having auxiliary police personnel serve as a

drug activity;

- ¶ Sponsoring community forums to share concerns about local drug problems;
- ¶ Energizing participants in neighborhood watch groups by planning and implementing programs;
- ¶ Establishing and operating boys' and girls' clubs;
- ¶ Working closely with alternative school programs, clubs and other after-school activities;
- ¶ Staffing storefront police substations;
- ¶ Instructing and organizing citizen and youth police academies;
- ¶ Serving as departmental liaisons to civilian anticrime patrols and contract security personnel;

The problem of substance abuse, including alcohol, is enormous. An entirely new corps of police professional is needed to serve as 'drug control specialists.'

bridge to community groups might alleviate many of the frustrations that police have encountered with regard to community support. Auxiliary police are generally unpaid community residents who volunteer to help perform a variety of services for police departments. Numbering an estimated 200,000 nationwide, members of auxiliary police units often serve as role models for the youth of the community.

The use of auxiliaries would appear to be a natural type of community policing strategy for reducing crime associated with drug abuse. However, there was not a single reference to auxiliary police in the 1998 policy guide and 10-year national strategy produced by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. That glaring omission notwithstanding, units of auxiliary police could be assigned to such functions as:

- ¶ Providing anti-drug presentations to children and their parents;
- ¶ Serving as role models for at-risk youths;
- ¶ Playing an active role in crisis intervention and recreational programs to divert youths from

- ¶ Helping to educate store owners and tavern employees about the misuse of false identity cards;
- ¶ Serving as volunteer court and probation officers to assist in the work of night drug courts.

Such functions for police auxiliaries are directly and specifically geared to helping communities achieve sufficient cohesiveness that citizens will be better protected in their environments, less likely to become crime statistics, and empowered to resist drug dealing. Moreover, unlike many regular police, who do not live in the areas they patrol, auxiliaries typically do. Their leadership and potential contributions should not be overlooked. Carefully selected and trained auxiliaries are an obvious solution, and they can be recruited without making cutbacks in other critical government services. In 1991, after high-level government officials proposed the use of an auxiliary police force in Sydney, Australia, hundreds of citizens immediately expressed interest. At that time, the president of the Retired Police Association of New South Wales said he believed that former police officers were ideally suited to becoming

auxiliary police and being involved in their training.

The regular and systematic use of auxiliary police personnel would appear to be a natural component of a community policing anti-drug strategy. If governments were to recognize their potential, the forces marshaled against substance abuse could be doubled or even tripled in short order. Synergy occurs when people and governmental organizations channel their energies toward a common purpose and accomplish what either group could not do alone. Citizens who are auxiliary police or who have been trained by them (for example, through citizen police academies) may serve as a tremendous reservoir in the prevention of drug abuse, awaiting only the call from an official with the insight and authority to direct them.

Of course, the use of volunteers cannot be the sole basis for a revised strategy regarding substance abuse and control; additional professional human resources are also needed. The problem of substance abuse, including alcohol, is enormous. An entirely new corps of police professional is needed, attached to local police departments to serve as "drug control specialists." Every local law enforcement agency should consider their immediate selection and deployment.

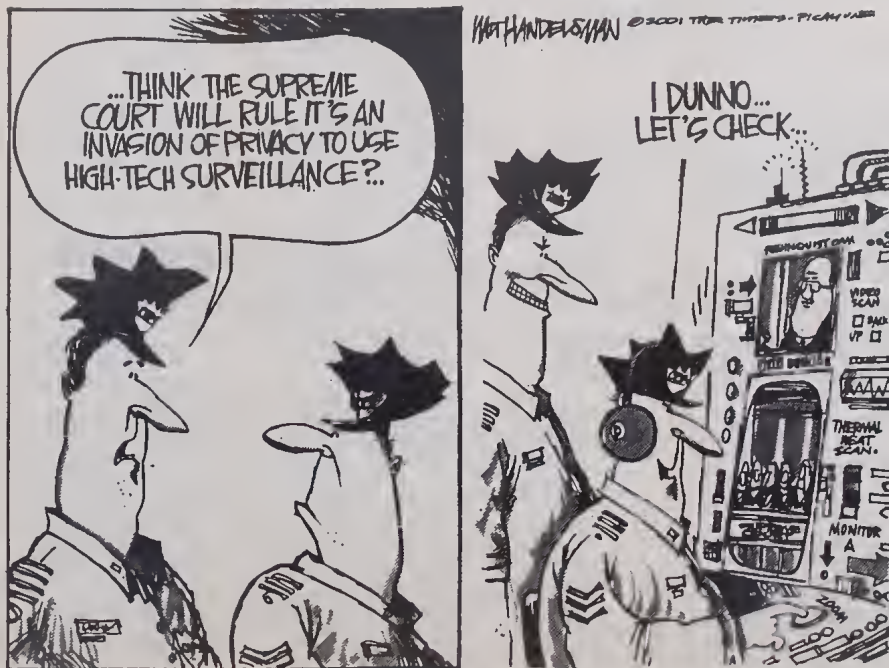
David C. Lewis, professor of medicine and community health at Brown University, has observed: "Part of the problem with the war on drugs is the punitive social atmosphere created by the law enforcement process that has criminalized drug use — with an increasingly harsh, get-tough policy but with little actual success." In this light, the recruitment of drug control police specialists could help communities achieve such goals as:

- ¶ Reducing personal harm for addicts, family members and innocent bystanders;
- ¶ Furthering overall safety;
- ¶ Providing care for those who need it;
- ¶ Diverting cases out of the criminal justice system through effective problem solving, and;
- ¶ Enhancing and promoting interventions involving informal mechanisms of social control.

These new specialists would possess all of the powers of regular police officers and receive all of the appropriate training. This is essential not only because of the violence associated with drug trafficking, but because 60 percent of the people who use heroin and cocaine are already involved in the criminal justice system. One of the reasons for the lack of success of New York's mandatory drug-treatment program in the 1970's was the fact that narcotic parole officers were unarmed and did not have peace officer status. Many of the parolees failed to report and the officers found it very difficult to apprehend them. Drug control police specialists should have regular law enforcement authority and training, not only the purpose of arresting parole and probation violators, but also so that they might be considered equal partners with the police and have access to police information and other resources to help them accomplish their special purpose.

The establishment of such positions would help greatly to elevate police work to professional status, and is in keeping with the philosophy of August Vollmer, perhaps this nation's best known police reformer. When he was the police chief of Berkeley, Calif., in the early 20th century, he be-

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Note to Readers:

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Calling in the 'drug control specialists'

Continued from Page 9

lieve, that "the policeman who knew the people on his beat was in an excellent position to identify problems and refer them to other community professionals for treatment." Fred Kohler, who served as Cleveland's police chief from 1903 to 1913, might have seconded the notion. In 1907, Kohler adopted a policy for his department which he referred to as "the Golden Rule," requiring that all minor offenders (e.g., intoxicated persons) either be escorted home or warned, rather than arrested.

Individuals recruited for the position of drug control specialist would need solid educational backgrounds and skills in at least four fields: substance abuse education, family counseling, crisis intervention, and investigative techniques. While their primary task would be to seek out drug addicts in the community and refer them to the most appropriate treatment agencies and facilities, they would also serve as drug abuse prevention consultants to a wide variety of institutions. A poll of police chiefs and county sheriffs nationwide has found that 42 percent favor more drug and alcohol prevention programs.

The role of the drug control police specialist needs to be carefully distinguished from that of community service officers (CSDs) and neighborhood police officers (NPDs). In Santa Ana, Calif., CSDs have been used to handle calls for service that do not involve police emergencies, but may only involve referring and advising. They are ununiformed, but do not carry weapons.

According to David Bayley, the internationally recognized authority on criminal justice and policing, effective crime prevention requires a wide range of skills that the average police officer is unlikely to possess. These include the ability to assess and diagnose social problems and coordinate "among private police, citizens, volunteers, commercial interests, welfare agencies, architects and builders, politicians and legislature, and a host of other government departments." Crime prevention, Bayley asserts, "will not take place if it is lacked onto the existing duties of patrol officers and detectives."

NPDs would not be responsible for handling emergency calls and would not be available on a 24-hour basis. They would have sergeant's rank and would maintain hours based on their own schedules. "The primary function

of NPDs," Bayley explains, "would be the diagnosis of security needs and the formulation of plans to meet recurring needs before they become law enforcement emergencies.... NPDs would concentrate on consultations with people who have incipient problems and the after-care of crime victims."

In some respects, the new drug control police specialists might resemble the proposed NPDs, sharing many of the same goals and requiring similarly broad yet specialized educations to perform their assignments. However, drug control specialists would differ from NPDs in at least three key respects: the need for unique counseling skills; the focus on one particular purpose (substance abuse), and the need for plainclothes attire. Moreover, since NPDs would be engaged in all manner of problem solving, they might have to utilize various law enforcement approaches on a more frequent basis than the drug control specialists. On the other hand, both positions would look upon any enforcement method, whether criminal or civil, as more of a means than an end in itself.

Drug control police specialists are needed because the number of people who need drug treatment is estimated

to be three or four times the number of people actually receiving treatment. Significantly, since most people who enter drug treatment do so reluctantly, and the criminal justice system has been shown to effectively influence individuals with drug problems to seek treatment, the services of these specialists should prove helpful. It is also important to consider that the goals of treatment are not confined to reducing the drug habits of individuals in treatment, but also include reducing street crime, changing users' personal values, improving users' overall health, and developing educational and vocational capabilities.

Courses in substance abuse and family counseling, human services (or social work) and criminal justice are available at many local community colleges in the United States. The establishment of a new drug control police specialist position should quickly cause such colleges to draw upon their curriculums in order to create the most appropriate and desirable sequence of courses.

If it is true, as Lewis has observed, that "drug-related street violence is more connected to drug criminalization than to the pharmacological effects of the drugs themselves," then the use of drug control police specialists in nonpunitive roles would seem to be highly appropriate in the interest of safer communities. Simply stated, the police can best hope to reduce demand for drugs by helping addicts obtain the

necessary drug treatment. Since many hard-core drug users, in their pursuit of money to buy drugs, are directly responsible for the robberies, burglaries and thefts that destroy a community's quality of life, the public's safety will also be served.

The start of a new millennium should offer new hope for old problems. Perhaps officials entrusted with addressing America's drug problems may be willing to expand the role of citizen volunteers at all stages of the law enforcement process and recruit full-time salaried drug control police specialists to proactively discover drug abusers and help them to find appropriate treatment. Such personnel could foster the birth of vitally needed programs, make better use of existing ones, and help to restore confidence among police and community groups.

The new strategy, combined with existing demand-reduction approaches, may help to bring an end to the seemingly hopeless year-in, year-out criminal approach that has dominated this issue for more than 80 years. The ideas presented may require the rethinking of some of the more draconian aspects of current drug-control policy, but the overall strategy is concerned with obtaining a realistic accommodation that steers clear of the legalization vs. decriminalization debate. The focus is on harm reduction and the use of penal sanctions primarily for violent predators and the true "drug lords."

Headlines are not enough

Affirmative-action programs looking a little black & blue
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Time to rethink academy & field training
Maternity-leave

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(22801)

DARE to chart a new course

Continued from Page 1

what would otherwise be a void in drug-prevention education, Dolnick contends that the cost to police agencies, which must relinquish officers to the DARE program, tends to refute that. "If you're tying up officers and money, then maybe it is worse than nothing," he said.

By the time DARE was dealt a harsh blow last year by Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson, who called it "completely ineffective," cut its budget and kicked it out of local schools, program officials were open to suggestions.

Said William F. Alden, a former deputy director of DARE: "Neither the message nor the messenger was sacred. Only the mission was."

DARE is not the only program that does not work, said Zili Sloboda, former director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, but because it is the largest, it has drawn the most criticism. Sloboda is developing the new DARE curriculum at the University of Akron, which will work largely on changing the social norms among students.

Limited studies have shown that programs which downplay the amount of drinking among college students tend to be more effective in curbing alcohol abuse, according to a report by The New York Times. Because teenagers are so influenced by their peers, it said, they begin to aspire to that norm. If they believe that drug use is not as prevalent as they thought, they will come to see that they do not need drugs in order to fit in.

The role that police will play in the new DARE curriculum will be more

coach than lecturer. Rather than give students a discourse on the dangers of drug use, officers will encourage them to challenge the social norm in discussion groups. More role playing, with an emphasis on decision-making, will also be part of the new DARE, along with discussions on the effects of media and advertising.

The program has also been shifted from its current fifth-grade audience to seventh graders, with a booster class in the ninth grade when children are more likely to experiment with drugs.

So far, New York, Baltimore, Houston, Denver, San Francisco and Los Angeles have been selected as test sites for the new curriculum. According to Sloboda, it will be tested in 80 high schools and the 176 middle schools that feed them. Half will use the updated approach, while the rest stay with the curriculum they are using now, including some that use the old DARE curriculum. Students will be surveyed before and after the seventh and ninth grades, and more extensively after eighth, 10th and 11th grades, she told The Times.

"There's a gap between what we know and what we practice," said Nancy J. Kaufman, a vice president of the Robert J. Wood Foundation, a health-care philanthropy that has provided DARE with \$13.7 million. "We knew we had better prevention technology that was not being applied, we knew there was this increase in drug use among young people, and we said, 'You know what, we think we can change this. Let's stop the rhetoric and fighting and see if we can't craft something better,'" she told The Times.

Upcoming Events

MAY

1. **Effective Performance Appraisals.** Presented by the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management, York, Me. \$95.
- 2-3. **Use of Force Instructor Course.** Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council, Chicago \$350.
- 2-4. **Juvenile Homicide & Violence Offenses: Behavioral/Psychological Patterns & Profiles.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$425.
3. **Effective Performance Appraisals.** Presented by the New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management, Southington, Conn. \$95.
- 4-5. **Confidential Informant Operations.** Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, Fort Lee, N.J. \$220.
- 6-9. **Economic Crime Summit.** Presented by the National White Collar Crime Center, Los Angeles.
- 7-8. **Dispute Resolution for Law Enforcement Executives.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Oswego, N.Y.
- 7-8. **Effective Skills for Conflict Resolution.** Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, Fort Lee, N.J. \$220.
- 7-9. **First-Line Supervision.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Suffield, Conn.
- 7-9. **Investigation of Sex Crimes.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Burlington Twp., N.J.
- 7-9. **Practical Police Supervision.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$425.
- 7-11. **Undercover Drug Operations.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Mt. Pleasant, S.C. \$545.
- 7-11. **Child Abuse Seminar: Intervention, Referral & Investigation.** Presented by the Delinquency Control Institute, Palm Springs, Calif.

- 7-11. **SWAT II: Advanced Tactical & Hostage Rescue Operations.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Mt. Holly, N.J.
- 7-11. **Executive Command & Leadership Program.** Presented by the Justice & Safety Institute, Penn State University, University Park, Pa.
- 7-12. **Semi-Annual Seminar of the California Association of Criminalists.** Tahoe City, Calif.
- 9-11. **Police: Internal Affairs Function.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$425.
- 9-12. **Advance Work.** Presented by the Executive Protection Institute, Berryville, Va. \$995.
- 10-11. **Rapid Deployment to High-Risk Incidents.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Clarksville, Tenn.
- 13-19. **Providing Executive Protection.** Presented by the Executive Protection Institute, Berryville, Va. \$2,990.
- 14-15. **Managing the Internal Affairs Unit.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Bartlett, Tenn.
- 14-16. **Critical Incident Management.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Sandy, Utah.
- 14-16. **Multi-Agency Incident Management for Law Enforcement & Fire Service.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Nashua, N.H.
- 14-18. **Crime Scene Processing.** Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management, Pensacola, Fla. \$575.
- 14-18. **Criminal Patrol Drug Enforcement.** Presented by the Institute of Police Technology & Management, Jacksonville, Fla. \$550.
- 15-16. **Effective Skills for Conflict Resolution.** Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, New Braintree, Mass. \$220.

- 15-16. **Police Ethics & Diversity Training.** Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, Newburgh, N.Y. \$220.
- 16-18. **Crisis Negotiations.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Myrtle Beach, S.C.
- 17-18. **Ethical Standards in Police Service.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Buffalo Grove, Ill.
- 17-18. **Managing Criminal Investigations.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Boston, Mass.
- 17-18. **Reducing School Violence.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Virginia Beach, Va.
- 17-19. **Introductory Victim Offender Mediation & Conferencing in Property Crimes & Minor Assaults.** Presented by the Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. \$300.
- 20-23. **The Protectors (A Professional Pistol Defense Program).** Presented by the Executive Protection Institute, Berryville, Va. \$995.
- 21-22. **Command & Accountability Policing by Data Analysis.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$295.
- 21-22. **Career Development.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Charlotte, N.C.
- 21-23. **Investigation of Incidents of Excessive/Deadly Force by Police.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Manchester, N.H.
- 21-24. **SWAT Supervisors' Tactics & Management.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Detroit.
- 21-25. **Criminal Intelligence Analysis.** Presented by the Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training, Milwaukee, Ore. \$495.
- 21-25. **SWAT III: Progressive Tactical Operations.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Mt. Holly, N.J.
- 21-25. **Homicide Investigations.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$550.
- 23-24. **Police Background Investigations & Selection Process.** Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, Edison, N.J. \$220.
- 24-25. **Less-Lethal Weapons Instructor Re-certification.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Aurora, Colo.
- 25-27. **First National Sexual Assault Re-**

- sponse Team Training Conference.** Presented by the Sexual Assault Resource Service, San Antonio, Texas. \$195.
- 29-31. **Advanced Bookkeeping & Records Analysis.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$425.
- 30-31. **Use of Force Instructor Course.** Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council, Columbus, Ohio. \$350.
- 30-June 1. **Domestic Violence & Stalking Investigations.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$425.
- 30-June 2. **Drug Policies for the New Millennium.** Presented by the Lindesmith Center-Drug Policy Foundation, Albuquerque, N.M.

- ods. Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, Weymouth, Mass. \$220.
- 11-12. **Developing Interpersonal Skills.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Lindenhurst, Ill.
- 11-12. **Value-Centered Leadership: A Workshop on Ethics, Values & Integrity.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Hillsboro, Ore.
- 11-12. **Corporate Aircraft Security.** Presented by the Executive Protection Institute, Chicago. \$395.
- 11-13. **Stakeout & Surveillance.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$425.
- 11-13. **Surveillance & Undercover Officer Techniques.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Binghamton, N.Y.
- 11-15. **SWAT I: Basic Tactical Operations & High-Risk Warrant Service.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Framingham, Mass.
- 11-15. **Police Supervisor In-Service Training.** Presented by the Justice & Safety Institute, Penn State University, University Park, Pa.
- 11-16. **Victims of Severe Violence Meet the Offender.** Presented by the Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. \$750.
- 13-15. **Crimes Against the Elderly.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$425.
- 18-19. **Building & Managing the School-Based Law Enforcement Program.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$295.
- 18-19. **Mentoring for the Retention of Public Safety Employees.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Schaumburg, Ill.
- 18-19. **Physical & Psychological Aspects of Police-Involved Shootings.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Maple Grove, Minn.
- 18-19. **Response to Chemical, Biological & Nuclear Terrorism.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Kansas City, Mo.

JUNE

- 4-5. **Developing Facilitation Skills.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Westmont, Ill.
- 4-5. **Executive/VIP Protection.** Presented by the Executive Protection Institute, Chicago. \$395.
- 4-6. **Advanced Homicide Investigations.** Presented by the Public Safety Institute, Orlando, Fla. \$425.
- 4-6. **Criminal Investigative Techniques I.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Boise, Ida.
- 4-6. **Investigation of Computer Crime.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Lakewood, N.J.
- 4-6. **Contemporary Patrol Administration.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, St. Charles, Mo.
- 4-8. **Criminal Intelligence Analysis.** Presented by the Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training, Columbus, Ohio. \$495.
- 4-8. **Juvenile Justice Update.** Presented by the Delinquency Control Institute, Los Angeles.
- 5-6. **Community Policing.** Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, Fort Lee, N.J. \$220.
- 6-7. **Fear Management & Survival Resources.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Edgewater, Colo.
- 6-7. **Managing Security Systems.** Presented by the Executive Protection Institute, Chicago. \$395.
- 7-8. **Leadership & Quality Policing.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, South Brunswick, N.J.
- 11-12. **Interview & Interrogation Meth-**

For further information:

Addresses & phone/fax numbers for organizations listed in calendar of events.

Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training, P.O. Box 8, Montclair, N.J. 07043. (909) 989-4366. Fax: (909) 476-8171. E-mail: crimcrush@aol.com. Web: <www.alphagroupcenter.com>.

California Association of Criminalists, Attn: Victor C. Reeve, Seminar Chairperson, (916) 227-3575.

Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking, University of Minnesota School of Social Work, 105 Peters Hall, 1404 Gortner Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108-6160. (612) 624-4923. Fax: (612) 625-8224. E-mail: rjp@che.umn.edu. Web: <http://www.che.umn.edu/rjp>.

Delinquency Control Institute, P.O. Box 77902, Los Angeles, CA 90099. (213) 743-2497. Fax: (213) 743-2313. E-mail: lar@usc.edu. Web: <www.usc.edu/dept/spd/dci>.

Executive Protection Institute, Highlander Lodge, P.O. Box 802, Berryville, Va. 22611. (540) 554-2540. Web: <www.personalprotection.com>.

Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, LLC, P.O. Box 822, Granby, CT 06035. (800) 627-5480. Fax: (860) 653-0788. E-mail: dhutch4848@aol.com. Web: <www.patnetweb.com/hlet>.

Institute of Police Technology & Management, University of North Florida, 12000 Alvarado Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32224-2678.

(904) 620-1PTM. Fax: (904) 620-2453. Web: <www.unf.edu/iptm>.

International Association of Chiefs of Police, 1-800-THE-IACP. Fax: (703) 836-4543.

Justice & Safety Institute, Penn State University, 1-800-PSU-TODAY. Web: <www.outreach.psu.edu/JusticeSafety>.

Lindesmith Center-Drug Policy Foundation, (212) 548-0384. Web: <www.drugpolicy.org/conference>.

National Criminal Justice Training Council, P.O. Box 1003, Twin Lakes, WI 53181-1003. (262) 279-5735. Fax: (262) 279-5758. E-mail: NCJTC@aol.com. Web: <www.lawenforcementexpert.com>.

National White Collar Crime Center, (877) 693-2974, ext. 245. Web: <www.summit.nw3c.org>.

New England Institute of Law Enforcement Management, P.O. Box 57350, Wellesley, MA 02457. (781) 239-7033. Fax: (781) 237-4724. Web: <www.neitem.com>.

Public Safety Institute, University of North Florida, P.O. Box 3071, Orlando, FL 32802-3071. (407) 623-1057. Fax: (407) 623-1059. E-mail: iptmorlando@earthlink.net. Web: <www.unf.edu/iptm>.

Sexual Assault Response Service, SART Training Conference, 525 Portland Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55415. (612) 347-5832. Web: <www.sanc-sart.com>.

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A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

Vol. XXVII, No. 550

February 28, 2001

Bachelor's degree, or just B.S.?

Questioning the
quality of 30-year-old
college-for-cops
incentive program in
Massachusetts.

See Page 1.



D.A.R.E. to be different:

Officials of the popular, yet oft-criticized, anti-drug
education program say it's time to overhaul the
curriculum. **Page 1.**

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What They Are Saying:

"The time is long overdue for the state to evaluate whether. . .these diplomas are worth the paper they're written on. The graduation standards for high school seniors are tougher than the standards for some of the police officers in these programs."

— Samuel R. Tyler, president of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, questioning the academic rigor of some college degree programs funded by the state of Massachusetts. (Story, Page 1.)